

Innovative teaching

A unique teaching team earns national recognition.

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The Big Bill

Laws governing post-secondary education in Alberta are being re-written. This summer, the U of A will help with the fine print.

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Alberta bound

U of A President Dr. Rod Fraser rides to rural Alberta.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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A familiar voice in the wilderness

Research discovers how mothers find offspring

By Phoebe Dey and Richard Cairney

Anyone who has conducted field research knows conditions can be tough and isolation can get you down. But Isabelle Charrier never imagined she would spend Christmas and New Year's with 30 people and 30,000 seals.

Charrier spent nine months, from December of 1999 to August of 2000, on Amsterdam Island in the southern Indian Ocean. Part of a chain of French islands in the Kerguelen Archipelago, considered "the French Galapagos", Amsterdam Island's human population stays at about 30: 10 researchers, 10 military and 10 support staff.

During her stay on the island, Charrier came to know her colleagues well. In fact, Charrier says Amsterdam Island is the most unusual place she's ever celebrated Christmas and New Year's, which she usually shares with her family in her hometown of Clermont-Ferrand in the Auvergne region of central France.

"It was interesting to be around people who you might not otherwise spend time with," she said. "I don't usually have a lot of contact with military people so it was interesting to hear what they think about science. And there are different scientists from different disciplines from around the world, so it was interesting to talk about their studies, too."

But if you wanted to be alone, even going for a walk could represent a challenge. The island's rugged landscape makes travel difficult. The island is small – only about five km long and seven km wide. But it could take days to negotiate your way over the cliffs and boulders, she said.

"It can be very difficult to just walk

"We found out pups can recognize their mother's call within two to five days after birth. This is surprisingly quick but considering that the mother leaves seven days after giving birth it is important to have that immediate recognition."

– Isabelle Charrier



Dr. Isabelle Charrier has found that fur seals and their offspring quickly learn to identify one another by their vocal calls. Charrier (right) spent nine months recording the animals and studying their behaviour.



mother returns from a foraging trip, she is confronted with both acoustic jamming and a high risk of visual confusion, and finding her pup under such loud and crowded conditions should be difficult. Yet Charrier learned that upon return, mothers and pups can recognize each other within seven minutes of the initial call.

If a mother was gone a particularly

there. It would probably take two days to walk around the island – there are cliffs, maybe 400 or 500 metres high."

But if the terrain was tough and the company sometimes – well, you try spending nine months with the same 30 people – the island was the perfect spot for Charrier's pioneering research. She discovered that fur seal pups and their mothers are experts at voice recognition, and that the skill is essential to the survival of the species.

When a fur seal pup is first born, it is immediately faced with a job crucial to its survival: it must learn to recognize its mother's distinct vocal call. Remarkably, all pups master the task within two to five days after birth, says Charrier, a post-doctoral researcher with the University of Alberta Department of Psychology. Findings from her extensive study on how seal mothers and pups use vocal recognition to identify each other were published in a recent issue of the international journal, *Animal Behaviour*.

Charrier spent her time on the island studying and recording acoustic recognition between females and their pups. When these fur seals come ashore to breed in dense colonies, the lactating females must leave their newborn pups on land while they forage for food at sea. As with most social species, the fur seals only feed their own offspring, so when the mother returns from sea, it is essential for the mother and pup to find each other among the several hundred other mammals.

"We found out pups can recognize their mother's call within two to five days after birth," said Charrier, adding that a mother will not leave the island until it is certain her pup knows her voice. "This is surprisingly quick but considering that the mother leaves seven days after giving birth it is important to have that immediate recognition."

Charrier recorded the vocal signals and then modified them to determine which parts of the acoustic parameters support the recognition process. When a

long time – they can be away for up to three weeks – the pup would become so hungry it would try to respond to another female's call in an attempt to be fed. But mothers are quick to dismiss and even become aggressive to pups other than their own.

Charrier's work on this experiment, conducted for her PhD in ethology at the University of Lyon, has also been published in the prestigious journal, *Nature*. It is one of the few studies to investigate voice recognition in mammals. "The only other studies have been done on sheep but the constraint is not the same since mother and baby are always together," she said. "With fur seal pups, that recognition is vital since separation occurs frequently."

Funded by the Killam Trust Fund and Alberta Ingenuity, Charrier is now shifting her focus to the black-capped chickadee as a post-doctoral researcher with Dr. Chris Sturdy, in the University of Alberta Department of Psychology. ■

Corporate Challenge team makes a difference

Looking for repeat victory, U of A's in second place

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta's Corporate Challenge team is in the hunt for a second consecutive division title, positioned in second place as the city-wide event enters its second week. But Corporate Challenge organizing committee chair Val Hunter says there are other goals besides winning.

"Winning is important, but it is much more important that we have all the teams show up and participate and represent the U of A with pride," said Hunter. "It is about participation."

Taking part in the Corporate Challenge events, Hunter said, brings members of the campus community closer and helps enhance the U of A's image locally.



Pandas mascot Patches leads the U of A Corporate Challenge team into a team parade during opening ceremonies.

"It is so great to see everybody from across campus participating, from academic and non-academics, to graduate students and researchers. They're all out there working together with a common interest," she said.

"And I can really see how an event like this can affect how you feel about your place of employment, because you see people in a different setting – it isn't the workplace, it is a social setting. I see people meeting new people, and I think there are great opportunities there to develop relationships. You go to these events, and you can see that there are people sharing ideas and learning more about different departments, and it influences what I bring to work today, and what our teammates bring to the U of A."

As a members of the city's corporate

community, the U of A participants are making the university look good, Hunter added.

"Events like this are great for the city, it is competition but at a fun level. It is a great opportunity to meet with other professionals and the corporate community, and I think people are walking away with a good impression of the U of A."

Hunter said that at Corporate Challenge events, U of A Pandas mascot Patches has been a hit. "Everywhere

Patches goes, kids are swarming around. I've even seen adults come up and give Patches a hug."

Last year, the U of A Corporate Challenge team won the championship for its division for the first time, taking the title from Telus and the Edmonton Police

Service, which had battled back and forth for top spot for 10 years.

Hunter said that with gold medals coming to the U of A's badminton and eight-ball teams, and points being earned in other events, the U of A was in second place, behind Telus, mid-way through the competition.

"I think our team captains are doing an awesome job in ensuring their teams are showing good sportsmanship and giving all that they have to provide the strongest team," she said.

A complete listing of Corporate Challenge events is available online at www.corporatechallenge.ab.ca/CCIndex.htm.

Closing ceremonies will be held Saturday June 7 at Griesbach, (108 Street and 140 Ave.) from 12 noon – 7 p.m. Hunter said she'd like to see as many U of A students, faculty, and staff attend the family event as possible. The U of A Corporate Challenge team will be on hand at the U of A tent. ■

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The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including Folio and New Trail, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

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The readers have spoken

Folio readership survey bears interesting results

By Richard Cairney

Folio readers are, for the most part, impressed with their campus community newspaper, but there is room for improvement, according to the results of a readership survey.

Conducted by the University of Alberta's Population Research Lab, the survey suggests Folio's readers are pleased with the newspaper, giving high marks to articles dealing with on-campus research and social and educational issues, but want to see more stories about support staff.

The survey was launched April 4, when 1,600 invitations to complete the readership survey online were e-mailed to U of A faculty and staff. Readers were also able to access the survey online at the ExpressNews website (www.expressnews.ualberta.ca/expressnews/) and on the Folio website (www.ualberta.ca/folio).

In all, 595 readers responded to the survey. Of those, 485 responded to the e-mailed invitation and 104 followed a web link. Six respondents did not indicate how they accessed the survey.

The survey asked respondents to rank different elements of the newspaper on a scale of one to five, one being poor and five being excellent. The highest score was

awarded to research stories, which rated an average mean score of 3.9. In-depth feature stories run on the Folio Focus page of the paper are also valued by readers, scoring 3.85. New stories rated 3.77.

The survey also asked readers to consider Folio's frequency of publication and its format. At present, Folio is published 20 times a year, every second week between September and June. Presented with a variety of publication schedule options ranging from quarterly to weekly, the majority of respondents chose the current schedule. Readers also said they prefer to read a copy of Folio published on newsprint over an electronic, web-based version.

"I like it in print format so I can grab a copy and have my lunch at HUB or wherever. I might not bother or have time to hit it up on the web. Keep something in print PLEASE!" one respondent wrote.

Folio does provide a web-based subscription service in which headlines and links to articles are e-mailed out once the newspaper is produced. Subscribe to this service at www.ualberta.ca/folio.

"I enjoy the Folio. I read the articles in ExpressNews, but I like the print version

for the ads, classifieds, etc. I wouldn't look at them online," said another reader.

One reader complained about the growing number of ads, (which, however, provide income essential to the newspaper's publication). Other readers wanted more space made available for opinions and letters to the editor.

"There should be more space for open discussion of current issues," one respondent wrote. "A university paper must provide staff and students a forum for expression of diverse opinions."

The space is available, and letters are published. Guest column submissions are welcome. Send both to richard.cairney@ualberta.ca or to 6-69 General Services Building.

One area of concern at Folio is the printing of articles that have already appeared on the ExpressNews website. The survey indicated, however, that there isn't much overlap in the readership of Folio and ExpressNews – just 35 per cent of respondents said they read both Folio and ExpressNews. The same number of respondents who accessed the survey from the ExpressNews website said they only read ExpressNews. ■

Legislation will reshape post-secondary education

Lines will blur between colleges, universities

By Richard Cairney

When the province of Alberta joined Confederation in 1906, the first Act the provincial government passed established the University of Alberta. Our earliest leaders knew higher education was essential to the success of Albertans and their province.

Nearly a century has passed and the provincial Universities Act has, of course, been amended time and again to reflect changing needs in changing times. But now, Alberta Learning Minister Dr. Lyle Oberg is creating new legislation to cover all post-secondary institutions in Alberta. The new legislation updates and amalgamates the Universities Act, the Colleges Act, the Technical Schools Act, and the Banff Centre Act.

The historic overhaul will change the face of post-secondary education in Alberta, supporting the concept of Campus Alberta, an idea to foster greater co-operation among colleges and universities and provide a "seamless" post-secondary system that makes it easier for students to access education. Under the plan, colleges and technical schools could be given the power to grant university-level degrees. Under the proposed legislation, Bill 43: the Post-secondary Learning Act, a new, powerful body called the Campus Alberta Board of Accreditation and Co-ordination would oversee changes in degree-granting status.

The Act also gives colleges, universities and technical institutes the Powers and Privileges of Natural Persons, which allows them the flexibility to conduct business in the same way as regular citizens.

"The intent behind doing this was twofold. The first reason is to include the Campus Alberta Board of Accreditation and Co-ordination in the bill and, more importantly, send a message that people have to work together," said Oberg. "We have got to be collaborative. We can't have a University of Alberta system, a University of Calgary system, a

NAIT system, a SAIT system, and so on; it's better for students if we have one system they can move through."

Presently, colleges offer university transfer courses. They provide, for example, the first two years of education in nursing. But Oberg feels the colleges are perfectly capable of providing a full, four-year university education in some disciplines.

"We have some university colleges, for example, that are degree-granting institutions themselves, and colleges and technical schools that are not degree granting; they've expressed a need to grant degrees, and it is something I agree with," Oberg said.

What the minister doesn't agree with is competition between Alberta's post-secondary institutions, which fight for funding and students from the same pools.

"Since I have been minister, one thing I have been pushing is transferability – the idea of working together. And the competition between the institutions drives me crazy. On the one hand they are telling me they are turning students away, yet they are still competing against each other," he said. "We are a small market. There are only three million people in the province. If we are going to compete, let's not compete against each other, let's compete against Harvard and Stanford."

University Provost and Vice President (Academic) Dr. Doug Owram says the U of A isn't raising any objections to bestowing degree-granting powers on colleges. "In fact, we'd like to serve as a mentor, if you will, to help ensure they offer good, quality degrees," he said. "If you look at Ryerson in Toronto, which was a college and moved to a university and has found its own niche, things seem to have worked out well. We'll have to see how it develops here."

Owram is concerned, though, about how the Campus Alberta Board of Accreditation and Co-ordination will operate. He says the board needs to operate independently of government and should have two mandates: one, to determine whether the need exists for expansion of degree-granting status in a given field of study; and two, it needs a panel of academics to review proposed degree programs to ensure the quality is second to none.

"One strength of a Canadian education is that we have a kind of bottom line to a

Canadian degree. We have to ensure that people have confidence that every degree coming out of Alberta meets that standard and has recognizable strength," he said.

Oberg knows that employers looking at job applicants who have degrees from, say Mount Royal College, the University of Calgary, and Grant MacEwan College might immediately favour the candidate who attended the U of C.

"Definitely, the committee has to focus on quality," said Oberg, adding that degree program applications should be peer adjudicated. "The degrees have to be accepted right across Canada. We can't have a first-class, second-class situation."

Popular acceptance of the degrees, he admits, "is going to develop over the period of years" as the reputations of new programs grow.

The next step in the process, Oberg says, is a new round of consultation with universities and colleges to fine-tune the legislation, which was introduced into the Legislature earlier this month.

"This is the kind of bill I want to get right," said Oberg. "There is no reason for doing this bill the wrong way. We are going to hear again from post-secondary institutions over the summer, and if there are any changes we will do them in the fall."

That consultation could make for a busy summer. The province has come under criticism for some aspects of the proposed legislation, which would allow the minister to dissolve university or college boards of governors and appoint an administrator to run the institution; the minister would also have the right to dissolve a students' union.

Oberg says that the minister has always had the right to dissolve college and technical school boards under legislation governing those institutions. About a decade ago, he says, the province disbanded the SAIT board of governors. The new Act simply makes the rules consistent across all post-secondary institutions, and addresses issues of accountability of boards and elected officials, he said.

But U of A Students' Union President Mat Brechtel is troubled by the fact that the minister could dissolve a democratically elected body like the SU, and he is worried that the Act may strip student unions of

some important powers.

"It downgrades our authority and our mandate," he said. "One thing that worries us is that it has taken out any mention of our ability to levy mandatory fees...one of the biggest things we need to do is levy fees so we can provide services to students."

Graduate Students' Association Vice President (Labour Relations) Tracie Scott is pleased that the new Act officially recognizes the GSA as the bargaining agent for graduate students. And she knows there are areas students are concerned with, but she is confident the summer-long consultation process will iron out "oversights" that exist in the legislation.

Owram, too, expects changes to be made over the summer. Alberta's universities, he said, are all concerned with proposed rules governing the role of General Faculties Councils, but he says the U of A is "generally very positive" about the Act.

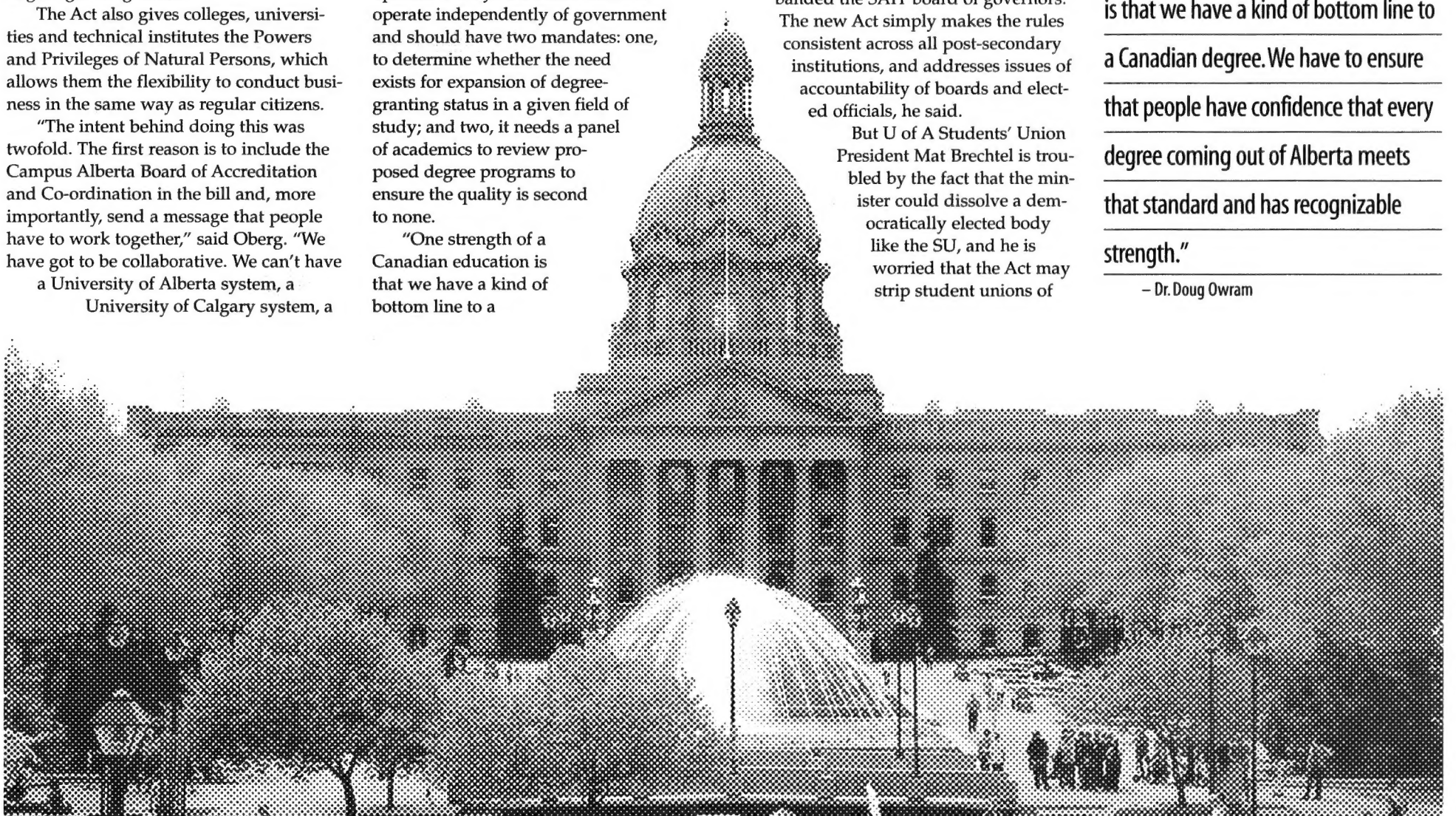
While he's positive about the Campus Alberta philosophy, though, Owram says the province still needs to address capacity issues. "The Act doesn't in itself resolve the issue of capacity, which is a resource issue. Campus Alberta is full," he said.

But Oberg says the move will make post-secondary education more accessible to more students.

"When you talk accessibility, the students at Lakeland or in Lloydminster or at Blue Quills College in St. Paul are not going to come into Edmonton to take their degrees," he said. "This gives them the ability to better their lives, in the grander sense." ■

"One strength of a Canadian education is that we have a kind of bottom line to a Canadian degree. We have to ensure that people have confidence that every degree coming out of Alberta meets that standard and has recognizable strength."

– Dr. Doug Owram



Slander poses a greater danger than SARS itself

SARS is a disease, not a plot

By Wenran Jiang

Outside of Asia, Toronto has been the city hardest hit by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Canadian Chinese living there, as well as Canadians of Japanese and Korean ethnic origin, have felt the chill of blame.

One news story reported that when passengers of East Asian origin used public transportation in Toronto, other passengers would keep their distance and refuse to use the same grab handles. A joke that made the rounds in California said if you look Chinese and need a parking space all you need to do is sneeze and the entire parking lot is yours.

Such incidents are unfortunate but generally represent isolated cases of panic, ignorance and stereotyping. However, claims that SARS is the latest evidence that China poses a threat to the world are extremely disturbing.

Proponents of the "China threat" theory tell us the Chinese people are natural-born flu-viral incubators with a long history of spreading diseases that have killed millions all over the world; that SARS as a particular Chinese virus is more deadly than AIDS and will create a global catastrophe; that China is no longer an engine of economic growth but a threat to the flow of commerce, investment and trade; and that China, via SARS, is interrupting

global freedom of movement.

Buried in this avalanche of doomsday criticisms are some unqualified charges directed against the Chinese people as a whole. These charges are flawed in conceptualization, biased in presentation and dangerous in practice for several reasons.

First, some critics have failed to make a clear distinction between the Chinese government and the Chinese people. Yes, the Chinese government's initial cover-up of the SARS outbreak was a deadly mistake. It clearly exposed fundamental problems with China's political system. However, it is one thing to blame the Chinese government for the SARS epidemic, and quite another to point to the Chinese people, both in China and around the world, and equate them with the infectious disease itself.

Even those who do not subscribe to the China threat theory have not escaped the trap of ambiguity. Ralph Nader, a former US presidential candidate for the Green Party, made a passing comment in a recent speech that communist China presents no threat to the United States "except in a viral way."

It is wrong to blur the line between the Chinese people and failures on the part of the Chinese government.

Second, it is extremely irresponsible, if

not racist, to delve into history and cite unsubstantiated speculations to support a conclusion that the Chinese people are dangerous because China has been the alleged source for many major epidemics that have killed millions around the world over the past several thousand years.

At a time when leading scientists are struggling to analyze the origin and causes of SARS, it is no better than a racial slur to tell the world that SARS is the result of unsanitary Chinese habits and the fact that some rural Chinese share crowded living quarters with domesticated animals.

If this was true, then many other densely populated regions would have produced SARS-like viruses. This kind of accusation is no more accurate than a recent claim by a Russian scientist that the SARS virus could not have come into existence naturally, and that it may have been a biological attack launched by the United States against China.

Even if the SARS epidemic originated in southern China, it is a disease that presently threatens everyone on Earth. The Chinese people have been the primary victims, and are still suffering today. They deserve far greater compassion, aid and respect. Historically, they never deserved the racist "sick man of East Asia" label; they certainly do not deserve such slander today.

Third, history has shown how harmful it is to dehumanize an entire group of people in times of real, perceived or manufactured crises.

More than 120,000 Americans were sent to internment camps in the Second World War for no reason other than they were ethnically Japanese. When the Nazi propaganda machine charged that the Jews were responsible for the spread of disease, economic hardship, unemployment and all other social ills, it was nothing but a prelude for the Holocaust that followed.

To pin the SARS label on Chinese people and state that SARS poses a greater a global threat than AIDS is not only an exaggeration, but an unfair provocation that could have far more dangerous consequences around the world than the virus itself.

SARS is not the product of a Chinese plot. It is simply an infectious disease that poses health threats to all humanity, and should be regarded as such. Chinese people are victims of the disease – they should not be treated otherwise. ■

(Wenran Jiang is associate professor of political science at the University of Alberta. He was twice a Japan Foundation Fellow and travels to China to conduct research and teach on a regular basis. This column first appeared in the May 28 2003 edition of The Japan Times.)

It's a drag

Where have all the women leaders gone?

By Linda Trimble and Jane Arscott

When Toronto transvestite Enza "Supermodel" Anderson announced her bid for the leadership of the Canadian Alliance in December, 2001, she said Stockwell Day's short-lived and troubled experience in the post suggested the job is "a real drag." As a self-declared "drag queen-super-model extraordinaire," Enza concluded she was perfect for the post. The experience of female party leaders in Canada certainly supports Anderson's contention that the job is not easy. Women are typically pulled into the role to prop up ailing parties, often in the (vain) hope that they can miraculously resurrect political organizations destined for electoral destruction. They face infighting, backstabbing and challenges from those backroom boys who cannot accept a woman as party leader. They endure media treatment which, if not overtly sexist, is certainly shaped by gender-based assumptions and value judgements. Indeed, women party leaders are so far off the media map that Pat Duncan, who led her Liberal Party to a

surprise win in Yukon on April 17, 2000, was bemused by reports of "Mr. Duncan's" victory. Leadership is still assumed to be masculine territory. When women leaders are successful at rebuilding moribund parties through sheer determination, often following years of hard work, they are likely to be patted on the head and sent on their way so the party can then restore its essentially masculine identity as personified by male leadership.

In all of Canada's history only 20 women have headed mainstream political parties – that is, parties that have succeeded in electing representative to the legislature either before or during the woman leader's term as party leader. One woman, Alexa McDonough, led two parties, the Nova Scotia and federal wings of the NDP.

The first woman party chief certainly had little hope of gaining power or even winning a provincial seat. Suffragist, peace activist and human right proponent, Therese Casgrain, was selected leader of the Quebec wing of the CCF in 1951 and led

the party until 1957. The CCF never established a strong electoral presence in Quebec, and Casgrain failed to win a seat in the National Assembly, although she persisted in trying. However, her prominence in Quebec society and her various forms of political involvement made her a key figure in her day. The first woman head of a competitive party was Hilda Watson, who held the post for a few short months in the fall of 1978, but resigned after her defeat in the territorial election that November.

Most female leaders ascended to the top party job in the late 1980s and early 1990s with 1993 as a high-water mark for women party leaders. In that year, ten women led mainstream political parties at the federal and provincial level. Now, with Alexa McDonough's resignation from the federal leadership of the NDP, there are only three women leaders across the country: Elizabeth Weir (New Brunswick NDP), Joy MacPhail (BC NDP) and Pat Duncan (Yukon Liberals). Duncan alone among them briefly held power, as Yukon premier

from April 2000 to November 2002, and the other two have little hope of bringing their parties into office.

This chapter addresses the transitory and troubled nature of women's party leadership, answering a question posed by an Ottawa Citizen headline: "Why Don't Female Leaders Last in Canada?" Our answer is that the revolving door for female leaders reflects a societal sexual division of labour and reinforces the patriarchal assumption that wielding political power is a male prerogative. Despite Enza "Supermodel" Anderson's quip that the Alliance can be refashioned by a leader with fabulous makeup and great outfits, female leaders find that what they wear provides no great advantage to them or their parties. Their gender, not their fashion sense, acts as a drag on their leadership aspirations. ■

(Excerpted from Still Counting – Women in Politics Across Canada, by University of Alberta political science professor Linda Trimble and Athabasca University professor Jane Arscott. The book is published by broadview press.)

folio letters to the editor

Coverage of teaching awards disappoints student

Editor, Folio:

Needless to say I am once again disappointed in your tabloid's blatant disregard for the teachers at the University of Alberta. First and foremost, a university is about students and teachers and when an important event such as teachers being honoured is merely just mentioned, (*Top teachers honoured, Folio, May 16*) this is cause for concern.

Yes, you explained how it all "works", but since when is it more important to focus on Corporate Challenges than it is on academia? I can see where the priorities are and quite frankly the ball was simply dropped.

The message clearly is that our top professors seem to be only worth a cheesy cut and paste job from ExpressNews. And don't get me started on the absence of the photo!

This is front page news, pure and

simple.

I was considering submitting a student view article.

Not any more.

It's not worth it.

Do you care?

Probably not.

Need I say more?

Megan Kelley
ARTS II

folio letters to the editor

Folio welcomes letters to the editor. Send your thoughts and opinions via e-mail to richard.cairney@ualberta.ca, fax at 492-2997, or by mail to Folio, Office of Public Affairs, 6th Floor General Services Building, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H1. Letters may be edited for grammar, style, accuracy and length.

Teaching philosophy earns national award

Team approach is key to teaching large class

By Wanda Vivequin and Richard Cairney

How do you turn a 280-person class of undergraduates and an abstract subject like philosophy into something students rave about and actually understand? Call in the “super section,” that’s what you do.

Growing class sizes in undergraduate courses are a hot issue in post-secondary education, as universities struggle to offer quality teaching and learning while at the same time coping with the crush of new students.

Imagine, then, a class of 280 students studying Karl Marx and Immanuel Kant for the first time in their lives and not simply understanding the class but raving about it.

“In times like these when classes are so ridiculously large it lifts my heart to see professors who still care about individual performance,” said Catherine Carol, who took the University of Alberta Philosophy 101 earlier this year.

Drs. Cressida Heyes and David Kahane “make philosophy less intimidating, said fellow student Mimi Simon. “I finally got to read Marx, and understand him, I think.”

The super section is a team of lecturers in the U of A’s Department of Philosophy which has just won the prestigious Alan Blizzard Award. The national prize, awarded by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, recognizes team teaching at post-secondary level.

The super-section’s innovative approach to teaching a large class has already caught the attention of one Stanford University professor of Education who said he is going to be taking the super section’s methods back to his colleagues. “We have much to learn from it,” said Eamonn Callan, a professor of education at Stanford.

Kahane is one of three full-time lecturers in the Philosophy Department who has spearheaded the project, along with help from 11 teaching assistants.

“Traditionally philosophy classes

were taught via small instructor-intensive sessions but by 1997 increasing enrollments made this approach impossible,” Kahane said.

“The trend has been for universities to cope with this situation of bigger class sizes by putting part-timers and sessional teachers in front of classes. We were determined to keep full-time profs in front of the undergrads and came up with the idea of the super section,” he said.

The project had a less-than-shining start; early experiments teaching philosophy in large classes had students complaining bitterly that they were ‘not prepared to be guinea pigs’. The team seriously considered abandoning the project, but decided instead to rethink the course from scratch.

Almost six years later the super section now uses a combination of innovative techniques that have allowed unprecedented accessibility for students to their professors via web-boards and electronic wizardry, as well as small group discussions held once a week.

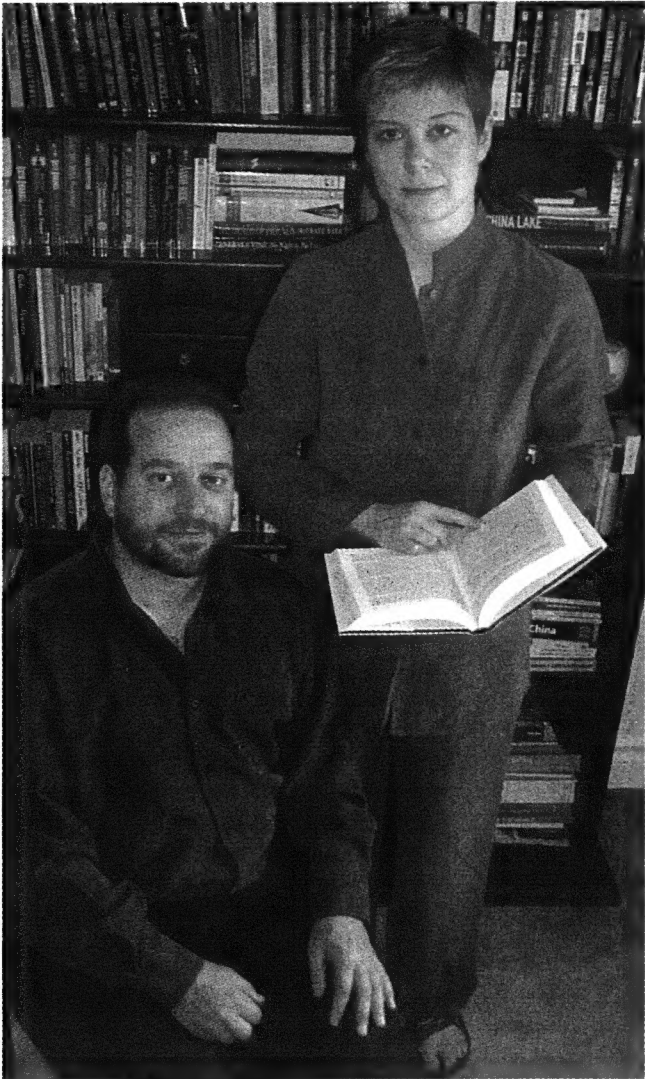
The website developed for Philosophy 101 contains a wealth of material connecting philosophy with everyday issues and, more importantly, a discussion environment where students talk to each other about what they’re learning, 24 hours a day.

All of this comes on top of two professor-led lectures per week.

The key to the super section’s success, said Heyes, is in not settling for anything but the best for students, and the building of the teaching team.

“The course got bad evaluations, the faculty didn’t like it and the teaching assistants were disgruntled,” she said. “But the chair at the time, Bernard Linsky, was confident enough that it could work and David took on the project of improving the course.”

In philosophy, “people tend to work in a solitary way,” she added. Making the super section a success involved not only



Stephen Oudez

“The trend has been for universities to cope with this situation of bigger class sizes by putting part-timers and sessional teachers in front of classes. We were determined to keep full-time profs in front of the undergrads and came up with the idea of the super section.”

— Dr. David Kahane

Drs. Cressida Heyes and David Kahane are part of the Philosophy 101 super section.

drawing professors into a teaching team, but also in giving teaching assistants a more prominent role in how the course was run.

“You have to see the teaching assistants as having pedagogical perspectives and opinions and work them into the course,” said Heyes. “Once you’ve inte-

grated them into the team you see a big difference because they aren’t just undergrads who are supposed to supervise undergraduates, they’re teachers in their own right.”

The super section will receive the Blizzard Award at a special ceremony in BC in June. ■

Making math make sense

Research aims at helping kids understand math

By Ryan Smith

What is the best way to teach math skills to young people? Dr. Xin Ma adds up page after page of statistics searching for the answer.

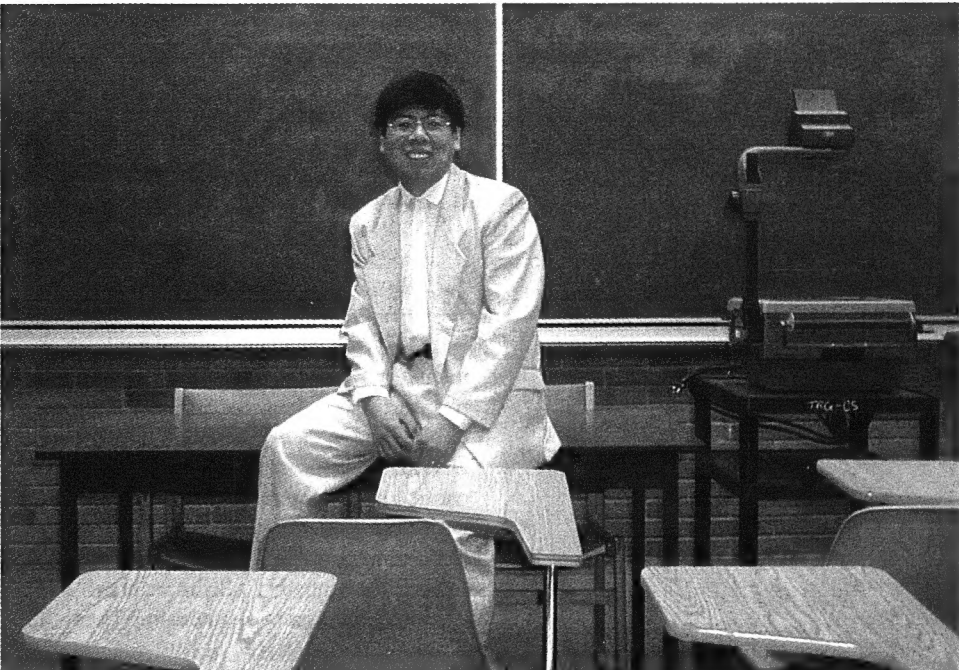
The University of Alberta education professor’s research focuses on education policy development, particularly in the field of mathematics education. His specialty is in statistics and making sense of quantifiable information stored in large databases.

“I focus on determining the effectiveness of schools in teaching mathematics. This takes into account many, many factors; for example, how the schools are operated and managed,” he said.

In his research, Ma has noted two particular factors that improve a child’s chances to perform well in mathematics: parental involvement and a school environment in which high achievement in mathematics is expected.

“Basically, he’s one of the few people in the world who are up to speed in the field of multi-level modeling, which allows for complex analysis of information related to large institutions, such as those in public education.”

—Dr. John Anderson



Ryan Smith

Dr. Xin Ma has been named a Canada Research Chair in School Environments and Educational Policies and has been awarded the Early Career Contribution in Research award from the American Educational Research Association Committee on Scholars of Color in Education.

“My belief is that if a student doesn’t like mathematics and can’t do it well, it’s the teacher’s problem, not the student’s problem. We have to figure out how to teach in a way that doesn’t scare students

away from mathematics,” Ma said.

“Basically, he’s one of the few people in the world who are up to speed in the field of multi-level modeling, which allows for complex analysis of informa-

tion related to large institutions, such as those in public education,” said Dr. John Anderson, an education professor at the University of Victoria who admires Ma’s research.

“He really knows his stuff,” Anderson added. “The kind of strides he’s made and all that he’s accomplished in such a short time is outstanding.”

Anderson isn’t alone in praising Ma’s successes. In April, Ma achieved two career milestones. First, he was named Canada Research Chair in School Environments and Educational Policies. Later that month, he travelled to the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference in Chicago, where he received the Early Career Contribution in Research award from the AERA Committee on Scholars of Color in Education.

In just five years after finishing his PhD, Ma has written two books, six chapters in various textbooks, and 40 published articles in refereed journals. Two years ago he founded the Canadian Centre for Advanced Studies of National Databases.

“Mathematics and statistics are my passion, so I work to find the best ways to teach in this field and share my passion with others,” he said. ■



Peregrine falcons have been nesting at the Clinical Sciences Building for more than a decade. A student group is raising funds to install a webcam, providing an up-close view of life in the nest.

Coming soon: peregrine TV

Group raising funds for web-cam at peregrine nest site

By Sarah Boon

Peregrine falcons are a much-loved bird of prey in Alberta. It's a miracle the species has survived, considering that poisoning from the pesticide DDT brought them close to extinction during the 1970s. At the top of the food chain, pesticide accumulated in their prey was concentrating in the falcons' body tissues. Some died from the poisoning, while others were unable to reproduce. Their eggs had extremely thin, weak shells, and for a long time very few peregrine young were born.

At the University of Alberta, a pair of peregrine falcons is nesting on the east wing of the Clinical Sciences Building, overlooking 112 Street from their 13th floor home. The government-donated nesting box has been home to nesting pairs since 1991.

Last year, two females arrived at the nesting site and decided they'd tolerate one another's presence. Then a male, the son of one of the females, returned to the site and began feeding the females, which laid seven eggs. Court and his colleagues swapped the infertile eggs with four 28-day old peregrine chicks that the adults raised as their own. Through the summer, the three adults and their four offspring thrilled birders who watched they hunt for pigeons in the neighbourhood.

The peregrines stay around until the end of September, before migrating as far away as central and South America, for the winter. Until the birds leave, the best viewing times from ground level (along 112 street south of 87 Ave. and north of Whyte Avenue) are from 8 – 10 a.m. and from approximately 6 p.m. until dusk.

But few people get a close look at these striking raptors. Now, the Environmental Coordination Office of Students (ECOS) hopes to introduce the entire campus to these falcons, and is raising funds for a web-cam to monitor the birds continuously.

"The Canadian Peregrine Foundation (CPF) has falcon web-cams at five locations in Canada," said Dwayne Wohlgenuth, a volunteer with ECOS. "We hooked up with them to join their web-cam network. We accept donations for CPF, and use them towards our own camera."

Peregrines have made a remarkable recovery since the 1970s, thanks to the efforts of many people across the country.

Gordon Court, a wildlife biologist with Alberta Environment, has been monitoring nesting sites around the province for years. While peregrines were an endangered species, with fewer than 50 known breeding pairs in Alberta, their status may now be downgraded to 'vulnerable', as their population has rebounded.

Peregrines have become a popular part of the urban landscape, and nesting pairs have made their homes not only in Edmonton but also in Toronto, Hamilton, London, and Ottawa. The U of A birds aren't the only falcons in Edmonton – one pair has made its home on the Inland Cement building, while a second pair lives at the top of the Telus building. But the U of A falcons will be the first in Edmonton to be seen live on the web.

Wohlgenuth believes the camera will be a hit, as people these days are accustomed to sound bites and seeing things in 'real time'.

"The CPF had several million hits on their website, with people from over 200

countries watching the peregrines," he said. "Now they've invested in infrared cameras, because they had e-mails from people in Europe saying they couldn't see what the falcons were doing because when they're awake, it's dark here in Canada."

Having a camera monitoring the birds is also a way to increase people's appreciation for and awareness of the environment, Wohlgenuth added. "Once they see the falcons on the web, people might be more inclined to learn about them...It lets people know what kinds of animals we have on campus – most people only know about the rabbits and squirrels."

ECOS has had several fundraising events to help pay for the webcam, including a guest lecture by Chris Fisher, a writer for the popular *Nature Nut* TV program, and author of *Birds of Alberta*. They also hosted a program on CJSR, the campus-community radio station, interviewing Court and a representative of the CPF. The events have raised approximately \$1,400 towards the cost of the camera.

ECOS plans to raise all the necessary funds, \$6,000, by the end of December and intends to install the camera next March. This way, the installation will be done before the birds return from their migration, so as not to disturb them. ■

"Once they see the falcons on the web, people might be more inclined to learn about them...It lets people know what kinds of animals we have on campus – most people only know about the rabbits and squirrels."

— Dwayne Wohlgenuth

Researchers discover schizophrenia clue

Broken gene implicated in disease

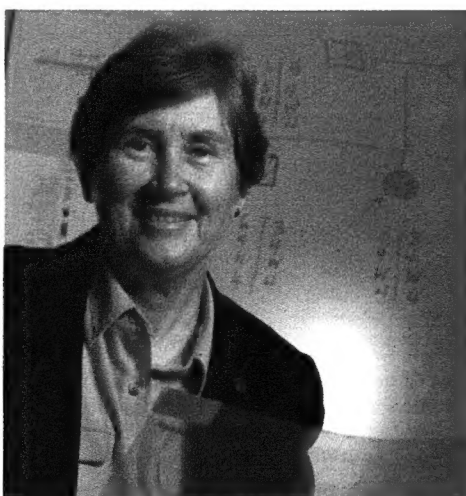
By Michael Robb

Researchers at the University of Alberta have discovered a genetic flaw in a family suffering with schizophrenia that may help to explain an important biochemical process implicated in the onset of the disease.

Studying a British mother and daughter, the researchers discovered that both were found to have a "break" in a large gene, human chromosome 14, that is due to a rearranged chromosome. The broken gene is a member of a family of similar genes that affect brain development and function. The genes in this group are involved in

"Our work isn't the whole story, but it helps us put in place a key piece of the puzzle that we can further explore."

— Dr. Diane Cox



Dr. Diane Cox

behaviour, memory, and regulating day-night cycles.

"The fact that these genes are broken means that important functions of the corresponding protein, particularly the ability to bind to DNA, are cut off. Binding to DNA is an important way proteins can control the expression of other genes," said Dr. Diane Cox, chair of the U of A Department of Medical Genetics. "We believe this gene has all the features expected for a gene contributing to mental illness in this family."

Under the supervision of Cox, the research was conducted by PhD graduate student Deepak Kamnasaran and is published in the May issue of the *Journal of Medical Genetics*.

Cox points out that schizophrenia is a complex disease and many genes are likely associated with its cause and development. "Our work isn't the whole story, but it helps us put in place a key piece of the

puzzle that we can further explore."

The authors include Kamnasaran (a former University of Alberta graduate student, now a postdoctoral fellows at The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto); Dr. Walter Muir (psychiatrist, Royal Edinburgh Hospital); Professor Malcolm Ferguson-Smith (Centre for Veterinary Science, Cambridge); and Cox.

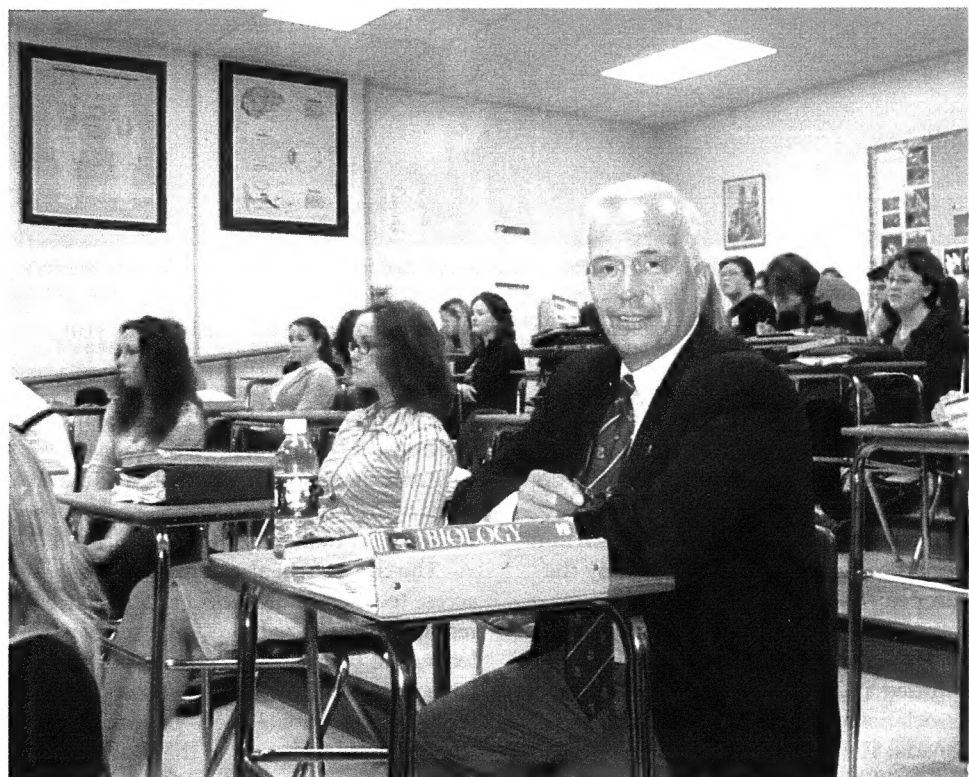
Funding for the work was provided by the March of Dimes (U.S.) and studentships to Kamnasaran from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research.

Schizophrenia is a biochemical brain disorder characterized by delusions, disordered thinking, hallucinations and a lack of motivation and energy. One in every 100 people in Canada is affected; it usually strikes between the ages of 15 and 25. ■

Fraser recruits rural students face-to-face

Trip may be start of regular rural tours

By Ryan Smith



University of Alberta President Dr. Rod Fraser spoke to high school students, as well as politicians, industry leaders and media, in Vegreville recently.

University of Alberta President Dr. Rod Fraser and a handful of students, administrators, and support staff recently formed a convoy and headed east to Vegreville, Alberta, about 100 km east of Edmonton, to spend the day meeting high school students, parents, alumni, and local business leaders.

Fraser said the rural trip is a pilot project that may spawn similar forays, he was pleased with how it was going. "Our mandate states we will endeavour to serve the community and build community partnerships as well as teach and conduct research. I think we were able to build stronger bridges to an area that is off the traditional Edmonton and Calgary channel."

The day kicked off when the U of A hosted a breakfast at Vegreville Composite High School (VCHS) which the local MLA, Ed Stelmach, as well as former deputy prime minister Don Mazankowski and about 120 others from the area, attended.

After a private meeting with Stelmach and a series of interviews with members of the Vegreville press, Fraser joined a group of U of A students and Students' Union representatives in VCHS teacher Charlie Gargus's Biology 30 class. Fraser and the U of A students introduced the high school students to the U of A and fielded questions for the duration of the 1-1/2-hour class.

"This will sound really corny, I know, but after today, I want to go to the U of A," said Laryssa Toroshenko, a Grade 11 student at VCHS. "I was thinking of going to university in the east, maybe in Toronto or Montreal, where I have relatives and could improve my French, but after hearing about the Faculté Saint-Jean and the study abroad programs it makes me want to go to the U of A. I'm hooked."

Todd Bown, a Grade 12 student at VCHS, has already received early acceptance to the U of A, but felt better about his decision to attend the U of A after hearing the presentation. "You think of a big university like it's a corporation or something – you know, you pay your money and they give you your papers – but now it seems like a place where they care about you and want you to succeed," he said.

One of the U of A students in Vegreville was Terra Melnyk, a fourth-year political science major and Vegreville native. The U of A students were planning a visit to St. Mary's High School, Melnyk's alma mater.

"I know it can be intimidating to come from a small town and go to a big university campus. You kind of feel like you're left to fend for yourself out here. I only went to the U of A because my friend's sisters went there and told me about it," Melnyk said.

"I think the presentation this morning was very positive," said Gargus, a U of A alumnus (BEd. '71). "I think there's a misconception that the U of A is too expensive and too hard to get into, but I always tell my students to go to the U of A for their first year and see if they like it or want to try something else after that."

However, most VCHS students don't go on to receive post-secondary education, said Louan Statchuk, a guidance counselor at the school. Because the Alberta economy is so strong now, most students want to go directly to the workforce after high school, she said. Many others, who do plan to attend post-secondary educational institutions, want to go to the technical institutes or smaller colleges to learn a trade, Statchuk said, adding that the "trade schools" often send recruiters to VCHS.

Just seven of the 63 students in this year's VCHS graduating class have received academic entrance scholarships for university. All seven will attend U of A this fall.

Fraser tried to impress on his audience that a university-educated person earns more money on average than those with a degree from a college or technical institution. He also explained that university-educated people often return to their home towns and use their expertise to improve the communities they grew up in.

However, not everyone was convinced that attending university is the best way to go.

"I'd like to work for awhile after high school and make some money," said Heather Toma, a Grade 12 student at VCHS. "I might go to a post-secondary school after I work for awhile, but it won't be university...The presentation today was good. I learned a lot and the U of A looks better than I thought it was, but I still don't think it's right for me."

"I think our presentation was really constructive. The students asked a lot of good questions, and I think we were able to make them feel more comfortable about going to the U of A, if that's what they end up doing," Melnyk added. ■

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Poon over the moon

Grad student attending summer space school

By Wanda Vivequin



Electrical engineering graduate student Tim Poon has been accepted into the International Space University's summer program.

University of Alberta electrical engineering graduate student Tim Poon is off on a study mission this summer at the International Space University. While other students might be spending their summer flipping burgers and mowing lawns, Poon will be studying everything there is to know about space science at a special summer school being hosted this year by the European Space Agency in Strasbourg, France.

He is the only student in Alberta to be awarded a \$20,000 scholarship from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. The scholarship allows him to join students from around the world in the two-month intensive program. Participating students come from a variety of disciplines, ranging from science and medicine, to law, to business, and to political science.

"In general, space is much more than a bunch of physicists and aerospace engineers thinking about ways to go into orbit. There are a whole variety of implications, from medicine, to climatology, to business, and even to politics," Poon said.

"Space is a truly interdisciplinary field and it's the interactions among these disciplines that make the voyage into space so rewarding and enjoyable," said Poon, a past winner of the CD Howe Award for the top second-year male engineering student in Canada.

The International Space University is a collaborative effort between agencies around the world that aim to develop future leaders in the area of space science. Poon's area of study - the one in which he

hopes to complete his masters this year - is wireless technology.

"Attending this course with people from around the world is such a great opportunity; I truly believe that space science and the international nature of the work being done in this area is an opportunity to lift humanity," Poon said.

The course will also give students access to some of the world's top science researchers, who will present a series of lectures at the school. Previous speakers have included Nobel Prize winners and the heads of national space programs.

The first few weeks of the course will involve a lecture series to ensure all the students have a basic understanding about all the disciplines relevant to space programs and the relationships between them.

Pre-course handout material explains that these early lectures will ensure a medical specialist will come to some understanding of propulsion systems, while rocket engineers and lawyers will learn about human physiology.

In the second section of the course the students choose an area of space study which they want to gain more knowledge in, and then they'll break into smaller groups to work on case studies.

Poon says he is not sure yet where his career path will take him, but he is certain that what he learns this summer will give him some more fuel for thought. It will also be his first trip to Europe, so he intends to have a bit of a look around after the stress of this very special summer school is over. ■

Violinist makes the grade for Juilliard

Invited to audition, Andrew Wan's dream comes true

By Chelsea Clogg

Some schools are known for being the best. In culinary arts, it's Le Cordon Bleu in France. In music, it is the Juilliard School and that is where Andrew Wan, a second-year Bachelor of Music student at the University of Alberta, is heading this fall.

"I've always dreamed of going to Juilliard," said Wan, a 19-year-old Edmonton native.

Wan found out he had been accepted into the Bachelor of Music program in violin after a rigorous audition session in New York City earlier this year. He was in New York to audition at another school when Juilliard called to invite him to audition for them.

"Each school has a different audition process. Juilliard's is the biggest," Wan said. "The audition is only 10 minutes, but they ask you to prepare up to an hour of certain pieces."

Although Wan has been playing violin since he was five, and he could have applied to Juilliard right out of high school, he decided to come to the U of A first.

"I felt like I could grow here. It is a small, close-knit faculty with tons of opportunity for performance," said Wan, who was able to perform solo with the U of A orchestra and was the concertmaster

in his first year. "I've gained confidence at the U of A, and I'm transferring to Juilliard because I'm ready," he said.

Wan's professors in the U of A Department of Music speak highly of him. "We encouraged Andrew to try out for Juilliard because of his advanced gifts, musicality, innate ability, and his endless possibilities in the world of music," said Tanya Prochazka, music professor and head of strings in the U of A Department of Music. "Andrew's playing is special because he has already mastered many of the most advanced techniques, and he is a musician through and through."

Wan is looking forward to his move to New York. "While the musicology program at the U of A is phenomenal, and the academic aspect is excellent, there is a huge emphasis on performance at Juilliard," he said, adding that he hopes to continue beyond the bachelor program and undertake graduate studies at Juilliard, as well.

To help offset the cost of attending Juilliard, Wan and David Eggert, a U of A open studies student who will study at the New England Conservatory of Music next year, are holding a fund-raising concert June 1 in Convocation Hall on campus at 3 p.m. ■

talks & events

Submit talks and events to Cora Doucette by 9 a.m. one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings will no longer accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.expressnews.ualberta.ca/ualberta/L2.cfm?c=10>**

UNTIL MAY 31 2003

Department of Art and Design Saccade: Briana Palmer, MFA Printmaking. Saccade is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking. Regular Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed Sundays, Mondays, and statutory holidays. Location: Fine Arts Building Gallery, room 1-1 Fine Arts Building, 112 street and 89 avenue, University of Alberta campus, Edmonton.

UNTIL MAY 31 2003

Department of Art and Design Printciples: Senior Printmaking Exhibition 2003. Regular Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed Sundays, Mondays, and statutory holidays. Location: Fine Arts Building Gallery, room 1-1 Fine Arts Building, 112 street and 89 avenue, University of Alberta campus, Edmonton.

UNTIL JUN 15 2003

Miscellaneous Connections - Revisited Friends of University Hospital present the artwork of Darren Bertrand, Fiona Connell, Dick Der, Keath Lengle, and Ruby J. Mah. Hours: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Phone 407-7152 for details. Admission to the Gallery is FREE. Location: McMullen Gallery, 8440-112 St.; East Entrance of the University Hospital.

UNTIL AUG 03 2003

Summer Shape Up 2003 The Fitness and Lifestyle Centre has created a FREE 3 month fitness program that is open to all members of the University community who have a valid OneCard. Please phone 492-7114 or visit W-98 in the Van Vliet Centre to register. Location: Fitness and Lifestyle Centre, Van Vliet Centre.

UNTIL OCT 31 2003

First Aid Training The Office of Environmental Health & Safety has arranged for Standard First Aid/Heartsaver courses to be held on campus once again this year. The training is comprised of two full-day sessions (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) with morning, lunch, and afternoon breaks. The cost is \$97.00 per person. The first course will be held in early April and the last at the end of October. Registration is limited due to classroom size. For further information and registration forms, please call Cindy Ferris at 492-1810 or e-mail cindy.ferris@ehs.ualberta.ca or visit our home page at <http://www.ehs.ualberta.ca> Location: various locations on campus and City of Edmonton.

Department of Human Ecology 1950s Retrospective Exhibit. 1950s Retrospective is an exhibit created by students from Human Ecology and Art & Design. It includes clothing and household furnishings from the 1950s. Hours: Monday - Friday 8 - 8, Saturday 8 - 4, Sunday 12 - 4. Free Admission. Location: Human Ecology Lobby Gallery, Human Ecology Building.

MAY 30 2003

Centre for Health Promotion Studies Centre for Health Promotion Studies Research Seminar Series. Patci Hopkins and Diane Gomes, School Health Facilitators, will present a seminar entitled "Health Promoting Schools Initiative." This seminar will share David Thompson Health Region's experience in promoting the health of selected school communities through the Comprehensive School Health Model. Everyone welcome. 12:00-1:00 p.m. Location: Corbett Hall, Room 3-26. Web site: www.chps.ualberta.ca

Department of Public Health Sciences Environmental Health Sciences Seminar. Dr. Richard Rothery, Department of Biochemistry, will present: "Metal-Containing Prosthetic Groups in Echerichia coli Respiratory Chain Enzymes." 2:00 p.m. Location: 10-120 CSB.

Department of Physiology Qiang Li, Postdoctoral Fellow, will be speaking on: "Polycystin-2 links to actin cytoskeleton." Time: 3:00 p.m. Location: 207 HMRC.

JUN 02 2003

Department of Cell Biology Visiting Speaker Dr. John F. Presley, Assistant Professor, Anatomy and Cell Biology, McGill University. Title of Talk: "The role of COP1 in the secretory pathway." From 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., Seminar Room 5-10 Medical Sciences Building. Web site: www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology

Department of Medical Genetics Dr. Michelle Letarte, guest speaker for the Department of Medical Genetics, is giving a seminar entitled "The Genetics and Pathobiology of Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia." Time: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., Room 2-07 HMRC.

JUNE 3, 2003

Branding, Labeling and Identity Preservation: what's in it for Agri-Business The recent discovery of the first case of MCD in Canada's beef stock since 1993 makes this symposium timely and relevant. The symposium offers a broad perspective on branding, labeling and identity preservation of agricultural products that will affect everyone in the future. Papers will examine traceability from the farm to the retail food shelf and all areas in between. Issues ranging from consumer willingness to pay, to food scares, to genetically modified organisms will be examined. For more information call 780- 492-4711 or visit our website at <http://www.re.ualberta.ca/coopchair/>

JUN 07 2003

Devonian Botanic Garden Saturday Walk with a Garden Horticulturist. Meet at the Shop-In-The-Garden at noon and tour the Gardens extensive tree and shrub borders, many of them in full spring color at the time. Horticulturist Gordon Nielson will guide the tour. Regular garden admission rates apply. Phone (780) 987-2064 to book your spot and enjoy a Spring walk! Location: 5 km north of Devon on Hwy 60. Web site: www.discoveredmonton.com/devonian

JUN 10 2003

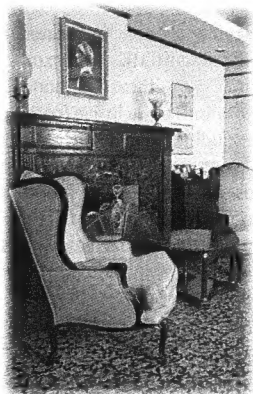
Department of Sociology Laura-Ann Thue will be speaking on "Gender and the Social Processes of Violence: The Interaction Between Personal and Social Factors." This study adopts an integrated approach to investigate the effects of gender, personal characteristics and situational factors on the use of violence in conflict situations. 4:30 p.m. Location: Tory 5-15.

JUN 11 2003

Career and Placement Services (CaPS) CaPS Open House. This event, that takes place from 2 - 4 p.m., is for employers who wish to recruit U of A students and alumni. All employers welcome. For more information contact Carey Castillo at 492-4203. Location: CaPS Resource Centre; 2-100 SUB. Web site: www.ualberta.ca/caps

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JUN 12 - 13 2003

Access & Privacy Conference 2003 Event sponsored by TELUS Corporation. Access and Privacy 2003: Exploring New Solutions, 6th Annual Conference. Join us June 12-13, 2003 at the TELUS Centre for Professional Development (University of Alberta campus, Edmonton) for this year's Access and Privacy conference. For more information: Access & Privacy Conference 2003, Government Studies, Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta, 93 University Campus NW Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2T4. Phone: (780) 492-5052, Fax: (780) 492-8265. Location: TELUS Centre for Professional Development. Web site: www.gov-source.net

JUN 13 - 15 2003

Devonian Botanic Garden Chigiri-e is the Japanese art of tearing tiny pieces of paper and making a picture that looks like an oil or pastel painting. On-going demonstrations are in the Crafters working area (downstairs) of the main building. Regular

admission rates apply. Contact Visitor Services for further information (780) 987-3054. The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Location: 5 km north of Devon on Hwy. 60. Web site: www.discoveredmonton.com/devonian

JUN 14 2003

Kurimoto Japanese Garden Spring Festival The Consulate General of Japan in Edmonton and the Devonian Botanic Garden are pleased to present a unique opportunity to celebrate Japanese Culture in all its splendor. Opening ceremonies will commence at centre stage in the Kurimoto Japanese Garden. The festival will include Taiko drumming, Ken jujitsu, demonstrations on origami, Taiko, tea ceremonies, bonsai, Chigiri-e, ikebana, and much, much more! Regular admission rates apply. Contact Visitor Services for further information (780) 987-3054. The event will take place from 12:00 - 5:00. Location: 5 km north of Devon on Hwy 60. Web site: www.discoveredmonton.com/devonian

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BELGRAVIA, WALK TO U OF A. Beautiful bungalow, fully furnished, three bedrooms. Large family room in basement. August 1, 2003 - July 31, 2004. \$1,600/month. Call Janet Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates Real Estate, 441-6441.

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TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT at 8619 - 111 Street, opposite Telus Centre. Available mid August. \$1,100 per month. Includes 7 appliances and heated underground parking. Please call 481-0316 after 6 p.m.

ASPEN GARDENS - three bedroom furnished condo. \$1,200/month all inclusive (parking, heat, utilities, phone (excluding long distance), cable, computer, internet, pool, gym). Direct bus to University and shopping. Close to schools. 12-14 months from July 2003. Phone 437-3352.

GARNEAU CONDO. Immaculate. Walk to U of A hospital/campus/LRT. Living/dining w/fireplace/deck. Den w/bay window. Two bedrooms w/deck. European kitchen w/eating. Full size ensuite laundry. Lease includes secured heated parking/storage/water/gas. Available July 15. \$1,180/month. Contact Ken, (780) 425-5221.

HOUSE, one block west of U of A campus, lovely character. Sandy, 433-4754.

THREE BEDROOM, furnished two storey, finished basement. Walk to University. \$1,200/month. September 1, 2003 - May 1, 2004 (flexible). 432-7864.

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RIVERBEND FALCONER COURT fabulous bungalow. Two bedrooms with ensuite baths. Den, sunroom. Price reduced. \$228,800. Bring offers. For details, call Janet Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates Real Estate, 441-6441.

GARNEAU, 10902 - 79 Avenue. Magic location, walk to U of A. Open to offers. 2+2 bedroom bungalow. Call Mike Jenner, Gordon W.R. King and Associates Real Estate, 441-6441, mtjenner@canada.com

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notices

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2003 KILLAM ANNUAL PROFESSORSHIPS

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2003 Killam Annual Professorships:

Dr. D Jean Clandinin, Department of Elementary Education
 Dr. Catherine Field, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science
 Dr. Helena Fracchia, Department of History and Classics
 Dr. Steve Hruidey, Department of Public Health Sciences
 Dr. Douglas Ivey, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering
 Dr. Redwan Moqbel, Department of Medicine
 Dr. Jens Roland, Department of Biological Sciences
 Dr. Sirish Shah, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering

2003 MARTHA COOK PIPER RESEARCH PRIZE

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2003 Martha Cook Piper Research Prize:

Dr. Andrew Gow, Department of History and Classics
 Dr. Rik Tykwinski, Department of Chemistry
 Congratulations to these two outstanding University of Alberta researchers.

REVIEW OF DIRECTOR OF CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES

The current five-year appointment of Dr. Zenon Kohut, Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, concludes on 30 June 2004. Dr. Kohut has indicated he wishes to be considered for another five-year term (2004-2009).

Under the authority of Section 103.4.4 of the GFC Policy Manual, Associate Vice-President (Research) Paul Sorenson has convened a review committee. One part of the review process is to invite feedback from the university community concerning the performance of Dr. Kohut. Anyone wishing to comment on Dr. Kohut's performance as Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is invited to contact any of the review committee members as follows:

Edmund Aunger edmund.aunger@ualberta.ca
 Bruce Dancik bruce.dancik@ualberta.ca
 John-Paul Himka jhimka@ualberta.ca
 Khrystia Kohut kkohut@ualberta.ca
 Peter Savaryn 7507 Rowland Road, Edmonton T6A 3W4; phone: 469 1860
 Paul Sorenson paul.sorenson@ualberta.ca
 Frank Sysyn fsysyn@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca
 Submissions should be received by Wednesday June 4. Please contact Katharine Moore (492 0868, katharine.moore@ualberta.ca) if further information is required.

SENATE COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Community Service Recognition Program was established by the Senate Internal Affairs Committee three years ago. While the University of Alberta is indisputably recognized in teaching and research, the committee felt that the many ways the university contributes to community service did not receive the same emphasis. As the role of the Senate is to act as a bridge between the university and the community, we feel that the Community Service Recognition Program is a great way in which to celebrate and strengthen our links to the community.

More than ever, we believe it is important to give thanks and celebration for the efforts and achievements of the university community. For this reason, the Senate is proud to once again acknowledge the impressive volunteer commitments of so many individuals who have given back to their communities locally, nationally and internationally during the year 2002.

In return for their contributions, participants in the Community Service Recognition Program will receive a recognition booklet, which provides statistics and information highlighting the unique involvement of the University family. Each applicant will also be invited to a reception on September 16, 2003 at the Timms Centre for the Arts to recognize the University's service to the community.

There is still time for you to send your application if you have not done so already. The deadline for submitting is June 15th. It's easy! All you have to do is visit the Senate's web site at: www.ualberta.ca/senate and follow the link on the right-hand side to go to the program summary and submission form.

For further information, or to obtain a copy of the application form, please contact Marie-Claude Levert at 492-1357 or levert@ualberta.ca or visit us at 1-50 Assiniboia Hall.

EMPLOYEE PAY INQUIRY (EPI)

One of the major Strategic Initiatives of the University is to move towards enabling staff to have more control over viewing and modifying their personal information. Staff and Student Payments are now phasing in Employee Pay Inquiry (EPI). EPI will

enable staff to view their regular pay-advice and to update their address and phone number. This will be done through password-secured access. Other self-service functions will be available in the future.

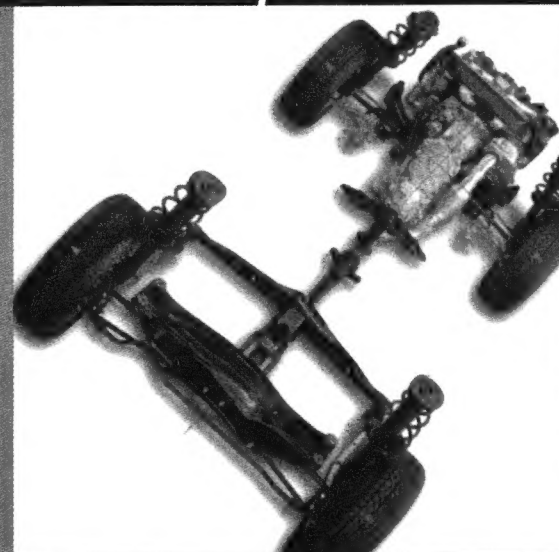
Currently, several departments are participating, and by December 2003, we anticipate that EPI will be fully implemented across campus. So get ready, we'll be calling you soon. In the meantime, in order to get a head start, please take a look at the EPI User Guide on Staff and Student Payments web site. The EPI User Guide is available at: [http://www.ssp.ualberta.ca/news/EPI/EPI User Guide.doc](http://www.ssp.ualberta.ca/news/EPI/EPI%20User%20Guide.doc).

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2003

The Department of Surgery and the UAH Capital Health Surgery Program are hosting a wine and cheese reception in honour of Dr Stewart M Hamilton (as he completes his 10-year term as Chair and Chief of Surgery) on Wednesday, June 18, 2003 at 3:30 pm in the Bernard Snell Hall, Lower Foyer. Presentation at 4:00 pm. For more information call 407-6898.

Display advertisements: Camera-ready artwork is required to size, complete with halftones if necessary. Call 417-3464 for sizes, rates and other particulars.

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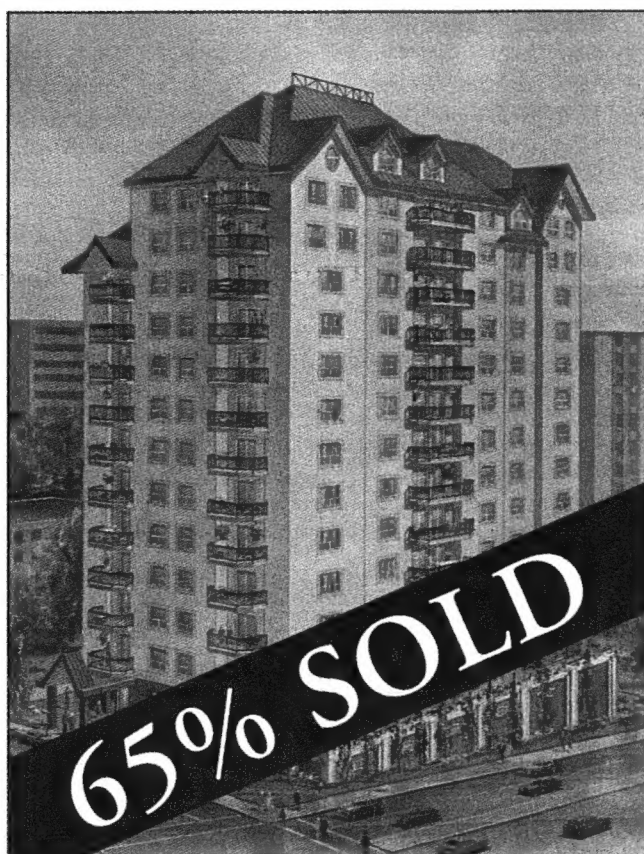
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'50s Retrospective

- Oh, Happy Days!



Exhibit delves into pivotal period

By Cynthia Strawson

My grandma never told me there was a bomb shelter at Westmount Mall.

She didn't tell me that my Lego, my Barbie Doll, my hula hoop, my roller skates and my Play Doh were products of the '50s.

Considered by many to be the most pivotal decade in Canadian history, the 1950s strongly influence the world we live in today. As a child of the '70s, I didn't see the rise of the baby boomers and the corresponding consumer culture. In my head, the way things are now is the way they've always been.

Oh, how wrong I am! According to Dr. Anne Lambert, a professor of Human Ecology, the '50s have a lot to teach us. "So much has happened in the past 50 years. If we can see the past then we can work with the present and the future in a sustainable way," said Lambert. "It's very interesting to look at the '50s in light of where we are now."

"Present-day Edmonton really parallels the 1950s Edmonton in a lot of ways," she added. "In the '50s, Edmonton was the fastest-growing city in Canada. It was a post-war society and there was a lot of excitement and growth, as there is today. There was massive growth and development into the suburbs and an economic boom."

That economic boom was the precursor to things like the Space Race and led to rapid advances in science and technology. The development of the atom bomb was reflected everywhere from patterns in fabric to the advent of radiation treatment for cancer. Built during the early 1950s as Edmonton's first shopping mall, Westmount even built a bomb shelter in its basement. While the 2003 version of the mall is enclosed, the original was not. "It was a strip mall," explained Lambert, "and very modern. They put the bomb shelter in as a reflection of the day."

The "boom" of the '50s was not simply economic. The post-war environment led to the famous peak of the Canadian birth rate: the Baby Boom. At one point, Canadian

women of the '50s had an average of four children each (Grandma blew that statistic away with her own litter of 11 children). In fact, 479,000 new Canadians were born in 1959 alone! Today, Boomers form a full 33 per cent of Canada's population and their children – the Echo – is not far behind.

The huge cohort of '50s babies, the Boomers created a whole new market and, along with it, an aggressive advertising campaign targeting, for the first time, children and teens. With 10.5 million television sets in 10.4 million homes by 1950 (in 1958, Pope Pius XII declared Saint Clare of Assisi "patron saint of television" – her placement on the television set was said to guarantee good reception), aggressive TV advertising took root and hangs on to this day.

We can credit many of our "classic" toys to the era. "I was flabbergasted when I looked at the toys that were developed in the '50s," said Lambert. "It seems like every toy I ever had was from that era."

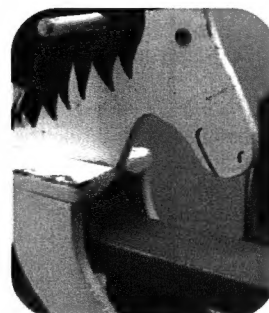
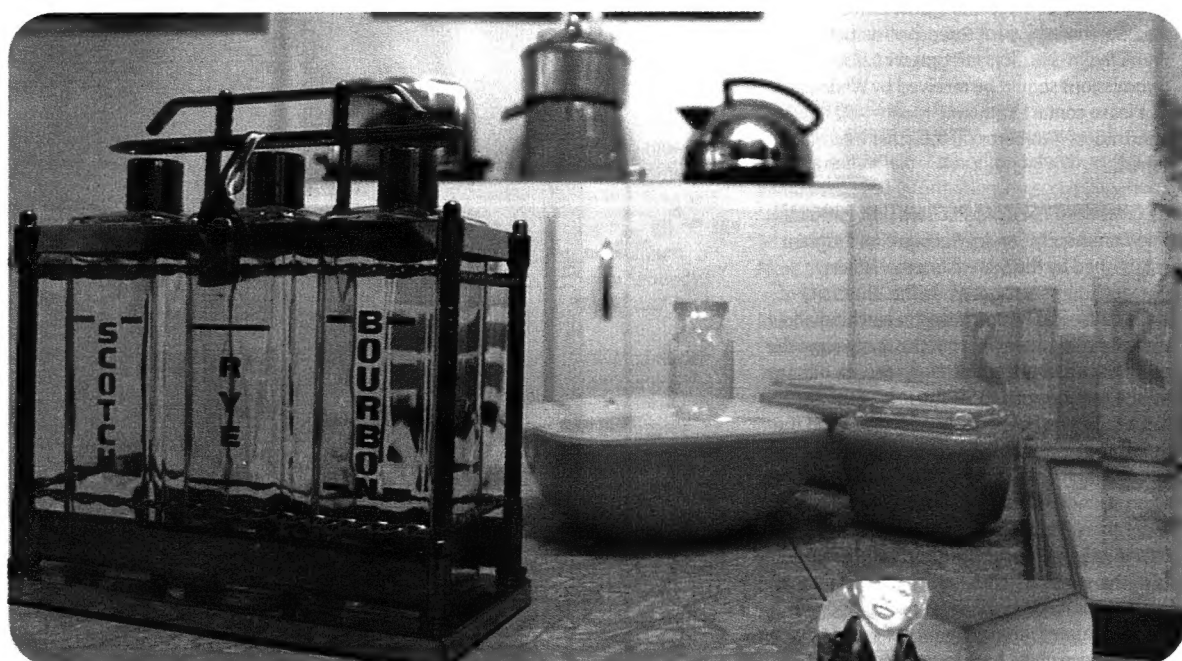
There are a lot of things about the '50s Grandma didn't have the chance to tell me but, thanks to the '50s Retrospective exhibit in the Human Ecology Building, I'm filling in the gaps. A visit to the exhibit has me mentally grooving to Elvis in bobby socks and poodle skirts or doing some telephone cramming with my pals.

Thanks to the efforts of 30 Human Ecology and Industrial Design students, my head swims with visions of pink flamin-gos, Tupperware, Velcro and Teflon.

The '50s Retrospective exhibit is located on the main floor of the Human Ecology building and is on exhibit until the end of October 2003. Call Terri Thompson at 492-2528 for more information. ■



Photos: Jimmy Jeong



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